



National Park Service  
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Grand Teton  
National Park

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## Grand Teton National Park News Release

### **PRESCRIBED FIRES PLANNED FOR GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARK**

Superintendent Steve Martin announced that Grand Teton National Park plans to use prescribed fire to treat approximately 2900 acres of park vegetation during late September and early October, as weather permits. Interagency fire personnel from Grand Teton National Park, the Bridger-Teton National Forest, Wyoming Game & Fish, the National Elk Refuge, and neighboring agencies will cooperatively conduct the prescribed fire projects.

The largest project will be a 1700-acre treatment on Wolff Ridge, located south of Moran Junction on the east side of Highway 26/89/191. The primary objective of this prescribed fire project will be aspen regeneration. Aspen is a species that responds well to fire treatment and relies on a disturbance, such as fire, to stimulate sprouting and regrowth. Aspen stands scattered within conifer forests provide important habitat for more than 200 wildlife species.

A 120-acre fuels reduction project west of Kelly may also be conducted this fall. The Kelly Prescribed Fire had been scheduled for the spring of 2002, but was not ignited due to unfavorable weather conditions during the spring months. This project will target accumulations of flammable fuels, minimizing the risk of future high-intensity wildland fire.

Other planned projects include two resource management burns; one is a 285-acre unit southeast of Jenny Lake at Timbered Island, and the other is a 500-acre unit south of the Teton Science School. Additionally, a 300-acre fuel reduction project along the west side of Signal Mountain between the Signal Mountain Summit Road and the Teton Park Road will be targeted for late fall.

Prescribed fire ignitions will occur only when favorable weather and fire behavior conditions are met. Smoke will be evident during the day of the burn and may persist for several days after. Local residents and park visitors are asked to use caution in the vicinity of the prescribed fire areas.

For further information about the planned prescribed fire projects, please call the Grand Teton National Park Fire Management Office at (307) 739-3311.

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